

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

1 WHEREAS, Fifty years ago this session, Thomas J. Lee of San
2 Antonio became the first Asian American to serve in the Texas
3 Legislature; and

4 WHEREAS, A native of Canton, China, Tom Lee moved to the
5 United States with his family at the age of eight; he grew up on San
6 Antonio's West Side, where he learned to speak English and Spanish
7 as well as Cantonese; during World War II, he was the first officer
8 of Chinese descent to serve in the U.S. Navy, and after the war he
9 remained active in the navy reserve at the rank of lieutenant
10 commander; and

11 WHEREAS, Mr. Lee studied at The University of Texas at
12 Austin, the University of Notre Dame, and St. Mary's University,
13 where he earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1956 and a law
14 degree in 1960; he went on to become a successful attorney and
15 businessman in the Chinese community of San Antonio; and

16 WHEREAS, In 1964, Mr. Lee was elected to the Texas House of
17 Representatives, representing Bexar County in the 59th
18 Legislature; a Democrat, he served from 1965 until 1967, and he was
19 a member of the Insurance, Penitentiaries, and Revenue and Taxation
20 Committees, among others; he died in San Antonio on November 7,
21 1996, at the age of 73; and

22 WHEREAS, Through his service to the people of San Antonio and
23 the State of Texas, Tom Lee was a pioneer who helped open the door to
24 a more diverse and inclusive state legislature, and his legacy

1 continues to resonate to this day; now, therefore, be it

2 RESOLVED, That the 84th Legislature of the State of Texas
3 hereby pay tribute to the memory of the Honorable Thomas J. Lee, the
4 first Asian American to serve in the Texas Legislature.

Wu
Button
Farias
Gutierrez
Martinez Fischer
Miller of Comal
Villalba

Vo
Bernal
Galindo
Larson
McClendon
Minjarez

Straus	González	Otto
Allen	Guerra	Paddie
Alonzo	Guillen	Parker
Alvarado	Gutierrez	Paul
Anchia	Harless	Peña
Anderson of Dallas	Hernandez	Phelan
Anderson of McLennan	Herrero	Phillips
Ashby	Howard	Pickett
Aycock	Huberty	Price
Bell	Hughes	Raney
Bernal	Hunter	Raymond
Blanco	Isaac	Reynolds
Bohac	Israel	Riddle
Bonnen of Brazoria	Johnson	Rinaldi
Bonnen of Galveston	Kacal	Rodriguez of Bexar
Burkett	Keffer	Rodriguez of Travis
Burns	Keough	Romero, Jr.
Burrows	King of Hemphill	Rose
Button	King of Parker	Sanford
Canales	King of Taylor	Schaefer
Capriglione	King of Uvalde	Schofield
Clardy	Klick	Schubert
Coleman	Koop	Shaheen
Collier	Krause	Sheets
Cook	Kuempel	Sheffield
Craddick	Landgraf	Simmons
Crownover	Larson	Simpson
Cyrier	Laubenberg	Smith
Dale	Leach	Smithee
Darby	Longoria	Spitzer
Davis of Dallas	Lozano	Springer
Davis of Harris	Lucio III	Stephenson
Deshotel	Márquez	Stickland
Dukes	Martinez	Thompson of Brazoria
Dutton	Martinez Fischer	Thompson of Harris
Elkins	McClendon	Tinderholt
Faircloth	Metcalf	Turner of Collin
Fallon	Meyer	Turner of Harris
Farias	Miles	Turner of Tarrant
Farney	Miller of Comal	VanDeaver
Farrar	Miller of Fort Bend	Villalba
Fletcher	Minjarez	Vo
Flynn	Moody	Walle
Frank	Morrison	White of Bell
Frullo	Muñoz, Jr.	White of Tyler
Galindo	Murphy	Workman
Geren	Murr	Wray
Giddings	Naishtat	Wu
Goldman	Nevárez	Zedler
Gonzales	Oliveira	Zerwas

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 116 was unanimously adopted by a rising vote of the House on May 6, 2015.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.C.R. No. 116 was adopted by the Senate on May 11, 2015.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor